

**JJRA – OFFICE OF JUVENILE JUSTICE**  
**Preventive Services for Juveniles**  
**2015-17 BIENNIAL BUDGET**



Reduction Option	FY16	FY17	15-17
FTE	(0.0)	(0.0)	(0.0)
GF-State	(\$55,000)	(\$55,000)	(\$110,000)
<b>Total</b>	<b>(\$55,000)</b>	<b>(\$55,000)</b>	<b>(\$110,000)</b>

**REDUCTION OPTION SUMMARY**

As required by 2015-2017 Biennial Budget instructions, the Juvenile Justice and Rehabilitation Administration (JJRA) is submitting the following reduction option that would reduce funding for preventive services to juveniles funded through the Office of Juvenile Justice. By implementing this reduction, JJRA expects to serve fewer youth on the front end of the continuum of care. This reduction would impact contracts with TeamChild, Juvenile Detention Alternative Initiative (JDAI), and juvenile courts.

**REDUCTION OPTION DETAIL**

As the TeamChild program uses the GF-State funding it receives to leverage dollars from other fund sources, a loss of GF-State funds would result in an additional loss of funds from other sources. TeamChild is the only organization in Washington that exclusively provides free, specialized civil legal representation and advocacy to youth who are at high risk for juvenile justice involvement. Over the past several years, TeamChild has incurred losses in annual revenue from public and private sources. TeamChild staff have already adjusted in significant ways to this loss in annual revenue. An additional reduction to the GF-State funding for TeamChild would mean fewer youth per year would receive legal representation, as the amount of funding for attorneys across one or more of the TeamChild locations would be reduced (most likely in one or more of the two eastern Washington locations). There is no other organization that exists to fill this gap for youth in these areas of the state.

The JDAI requires GF-State dollars to maintain the Initiative. From 2009 to 2012, Washington received an 87.5 percent decrease in funding from the Annie E. Casey Foundation, the initial primary source of funding for Washington's JDAI. Additionally, federal funds allocated by the Washington State Partnership on Juvenile Justice to support JDAI have seen a dramatic decrease in funding over the past several years. The result has been a 65 percent reduction in federal dollars allocated for JDAI from 2011 to 2012. With both of these fund sources for JDAI significantly decreased, GF-State funding for JDAI is essential to maintaining current operations. A reduction would impact the grant contract awards to the county juvenile courts (JDAI sites), as the majority of the funding for Washington's JDAI is awarded through annual contracts to the participating county sites that implement JDAI strategies. These strategies include alternatives to detention programming for youth. As the funds support programming, data collection, and coordination, alternative



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programming and/or staff positions at the county sites could be reduced. A budget reduction would also impact the efforts of the statewide steering committee, including quality assurance.

The State Criminal Street Gang Prevention and Intervention Grant Program currently funds three Gang Prevention and Intervention Programs around the state and an independent multi-site evaluator. These programs are working to implement the federal OJJDP Gang Model. Local jurisdictions contribute in-kind to these efforts. A reduction of funding for these projects would be a loss at a time when the programs have completed in depth gang assessments and have identified the location and population that is in need of service. Two of the three programs already have multidisciplinary teams in place and are working with their community partners (including law enforcement) to serve the identified youth. At the most, this reduction would only allow for two projects to be funded. One program would not be able to continue. Because the majority of the youth served in these programs are youth of color, a budget reduction would disproportionately impact youth of color.

**STAKEHOLDER IMPACT**

An annual proposed reduction amount of \$55,000 that is divided equally among the three programs (JDAI, TeamChild, and the State Gang Grant) would be approximately \$18,330 per program. Any reductions to these three programs would negatively impact services to vulnerable youth in our state.

The majority of funding for the Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative (JDAI) is utilized to fund local county sites via grant contracts. Under this proposal, there would be reductions to the amounts provided to each of the sites/local communities to implement cost saving juvenile detention alternatives initiative (JDAI) strategies. This would reduce funds that support alternative programming for youth and/or staff positions at the local county sites.

A reduction in funding for the TeamChild Program could impact the amount of funding for attorneys across one or more of the TeamChild locations (most likely in one or more of the two eastern Washington locations). This would reduce the number of youth provided with legal representation and advocacy services. There is no other organization that exists to fill this gap for youth in these areas of the state.

Reduced funding for the State Gang Prevention and Intervention Grant would mean less funding for each of the three funded gang grant projects. This would reduce the amount of funds available for the necessary gang coordinator positions at two of the programs and would impact/reduce service delivery for gang-involved youth at one of the programs. The three state-funded Gang Prevention and Intervention Grant projects are located in King County, Benton-Franklin Counties, and the City of Tacoma.



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